

ST MARY'S CHURCH, THAMES STREET, HAMPTON

The Parish Link

EASTER 2018



HE IS RISEN

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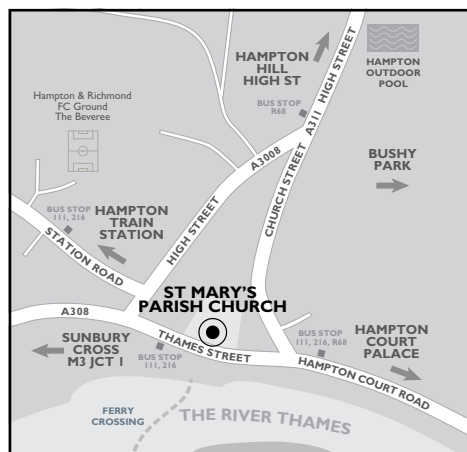
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Nick Neilan 07469 147137

Children and Families' Work Leader . email: sam.waako@hampton-church.org.uk
Sam Waako 07923 331108

Safeguarding Officer

Nally Fernando, safeguarding@hampton-church.org.uk

Choir Director and Organist

Contact: David Pimm, CertRCHO 020 8399 2404
New choir members, adults or children, are encouraged.

Worship Band. email: john@hampton-church.org.uk
John Winterburn 07816 855941

Bell Ringers

Beginners or experienced ringers are always welcome.
Contact: Alison Ward 020 8979 9848

RESURRECTION LIFE

Folded Grave Clothes and Running for the Tomb

We were searching for an image to use this Easter of the empty tomb of Jesus. This symbol of new life having broken through where there was failure and disappointment before is a central part of the Christian message.

One glorious image was rejected as, although it was stunning and beautiful, had the grave clothes strewn across the floor. It gave energy and life to the image – that Jesus, awoken from death, leaves for the world. However the narrative we have in the Bible speaks of the grave clothes being neatly folded or rolled in place.

It is one of those curious parts of the resurrection report which the author, in the midst of an event that changes the whole of the cosmos, mentions the mundane and ordinary. For me it is one of the things that give the Gospel accounts veracity. Why would they mention it if it did not happen? It seems too boring to make up.

My favourite aside in the Easter description is in John's account when he describes himself and his friend Peter running for the tomb of Jesus to see if he has really risen. Referring to himself as the 'other disciple' (it was very uncouth to write about yourself directly) he reminds Peter three times in a very short section that he was faster and therefore reached the tomb first. (JOHN 20:3-8).

In the eye-witness account of the greatest event ever we see one friend gently prodding the other: "You remember how you came second, right? How I got there first?"

It brings a humanity and realism to a story that could otherwise become a metaphor or a fairy tale.

We Shall Have Spring Again

In the midst of a human tale of confusion, shock and surprise we have a reality that can be hard to look at directly. We can try to not consider Easter too real for it challenges the core of who we are.

Easter tells us that death is not the end.

However much we think this is not scientifically possible or does not fit with our understanding of life we cannot avoid the fact that we have very believable accounts of the resurrection of Jesus in the Bible.

We are compelled to think of the world in a new light. One where disappointment can be overturned, where failure can become victory, where death becomes life.

As I write this a few spring like days have been quashed by a Siberian wind. I'm starting to think that summer will never come. Weekend plans which were to be warm outdoor fun will now be full of whinging and heavy coats (and that's just me, not the children).

Easter reminds us that life is much the same. Sometimes disappointment and cold seem to overtake us, but Spring will always come. Summer is inevitable. The cold, dark, deathly winter will not have the final say.

In the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe the promise of the coming King, the Christ-like Aslan, is greeted with an ancient rhyme. A promise that life shall break through, that all will be right, that with the Jesus-y lion we shall have spring again

*Wrong will be right,
when Aslan comes in sight,
at the sound of his roar,
sorrows will be no more,
when he bares his teeth,
winter meets its death,
and when he shakes his mane,
we shall have spring again.*

Ben Lovell



From the Registers

Baptisms

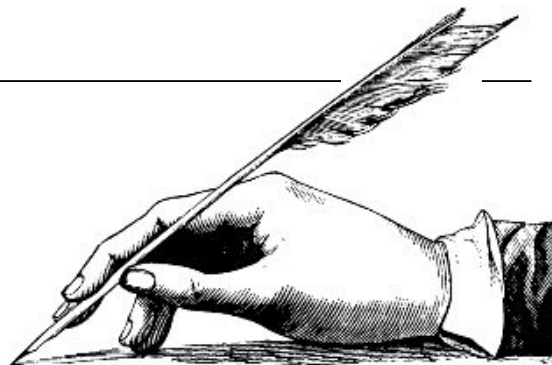
28 January 2018 Evelyn Florence Jaloszynski

Funerals

3 January Max Harry Edward Baldwin, aged 31 years, of High Street
to South West Middlesex Crematorium

12 February Joan Maud Jamieson, aged 91 years, of Dalemead Care Home, Riverdale Gardens,
Twickenham to St Mary's Church, then to South West Middlesex Crematorium

19 February Vera Lovett, aged 95, of Percy Road, Hampton to South West Middlesex Crematorium



New Youth Pastor

We are very excited to announce that Nick Neilan has been appointed as our Youth Pastor. Nick will be working half time for the church to disciple, encourage and evangelise young people. Nick has great youth work experience and this role will complement his work with MTV Youth Hampton.

SERVICE TIMES AT ST MARY'S

SUNDAYS

9.30am Holy Communion

A choral service with traditional hymns

11am Sunday Praise

A family friendly contemporary service with youth and children's groups and crèche

6.30pm Prayer Book Evensong

A gentle, traditional service

or

6.30pm Refresh Informal Service (4th Sunday)

WEEKDAYS

9am Morning Prayer (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday)

9am Holy Communion (Wednesday)

10am First Steps Toddler Praise (Wednesday)

A service for pre-school children with craft, games and refreshments.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

STAINER'S CRUCIFIXION

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

PSALM 24



On Palm Sunday evening (25 March) our expanded parish choir will lead a service of meditation at 6.30pm featuring the oratorio: *The Crucifixion* by Sir John Stainer. Published and first performed in 1887 (in St Marylebone Parish Church), this is every bit a passion of the late Romantic, Victorian era. Its content ranges from the heart-string pulling tenor solo 'King ever glorious' to the famous centre-piece: 'God so loved the world'; from the big chorus items: 'Fling wide the gates' to a delightful duet: 'So Thou liftest Thy divine petition'. It includes several congregational hymns, culminating in the stirring 'All for Jesus – all for Jesus'.

Born in Southwark in 1840 and then a choir boy at St Paul's Cathedral, Stainer was later organist of St Paul's Cathedral for sixteen years and Professor of Music at Oxford. But he wrote *The Crucifixion* with the better parish choirs of his day in mind as an act of worship, originally performed on the day after Ash Wednesday in 1887. He wrote it to be accompanied

by church organ. Our recently repaired organ's tonal picture and disposition of stops is essentially as it was when rebuilt in the late 1890s. So it provides exactly the accompaniment that Stainer intended.

Many of the words, of course, come straight out of the gospels, re-telling the final hours leading to Jesus' crucifixion. One of the big themes emerging from the additional words written by the librettist Rev. WJ Sparrow Simpson is the striking juxtaposition of Jesus the King and Jesus the suffering servant. The moving tenor solo beginning with the words 'King ever glorious' has the most extraordinary title: 'The Majesty of the Divine Humiliation'. If we see a powerful individual humiliated, as seems to happen surprisingly often these days, we would hardly describe the situation as majestic!

This important Christian teaching of the humble and suffering King finds its roots in the Old Testament. A leading example would be Isaiah's prophecy:

'Surely he (the Messiah) took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows,
yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,
and by his wounds we are healed.'

ISAIAH 53:4,5

This juxtaposition means that, whilst there are exquisite, quiet, introspective moments of wonder in the music, there are also huge moments of rousing majesty. Another surprising moment, for example, is when the devastating words: 'Pilate... delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified' are followed with the procession to Calvary and the quite remarkable and arresting fortissimo 'trumpeting'

from the full choir of the words: 'Fling wide the gates! for the Saviour awaits to tread in his royal way' – the way of salvation and healing.

I hope and pray that this passion and Easter tide will help us to ponder anew the majestic magnificence of Jesus' sacrificial and life-giving act on the cross.

David Pimm
Organist and choir director

Children and Young People at St Mary's

FIRST STEPS TODDLER PRAISE

**A simple and fun
worship service for
babies and toddlers**

Wednesdays
during term time
10-11am in church

Bible stories, songs, craft,
drinks, snacks and time
to chat or play.

For further details contact
Cara Lovell 07879 404201
cara.lovell@hampton-church.org.uk



**For young people of
secondary school age**

F.A.B. meets in church on
some Sunday mornings
at 11am and most Sunday
evenings for discussion,
games, acting, eating and other
activities. In the programme
there are also occasional socials
and trips to Soul Survivor.

For further details contact
Nick Neilan 07469 147137
nick.neilan@hampton-church.org.uk



**For infants
3 to 7 years**

Mini-COSMOS begins in the
church service and then the
children leave for their own
activities in the church hall.

We meet on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th
and 5th Sundays of the month
during our 11am service.



**For children of
junior school age**

COSMOS meets in the hall
during our 11am service for
activity, craft and fun.

We meet on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th
and 5th Sundays of the month
during our 11am service.

We come back in time for a
blessing in the service.



**Come and join
our group for
carers, babies
and toddlers**

We meet during term time
on Mondays at 1.30-3pm in
St Mary's Community Hall
for play, craft, story, songs,
coffee, chat and friendship



**A YOUTH CLUB FOR YOUNG
PEOPLE AGED 8-14**

Friday evenings, 7-8.30pm
during term time

Activities include football, crafts,
drumming & other games.

To find out more about MTV
please visit our website at
mtvhampton.org.uk. To get in
touch or to find out how you can
become a supporter of the club
please email:

info@mtvhampton.org.uk

First Steps Toddler Praise

Babies, toddlers and pre-school children love to sing, dance, listen to stories, make things, and eat snacks – so that is what we do at First Steps Toddler Praise on Wednesday mornings. We learn some catchy songs, get dancing with instruments and actions, hear a Bible story, make some cool crafts related to our theme, and finish with a time of free play, chatting and refreshments. It may be a church service – but one aimed at very young children and their carers.

At the end of November, the First Steps Team organised a Christmas service specifically for babies, toddlers and pre-school children. We loved welcoming 65 young children and over 40 grown-ups to St Mary's Church for Christmas songs, a Christmas story, and Christmas crafts. At the end of the service the children and carers enjoyed munching on Christmas biscuits, mince pies and other festive treats.

It was very loud and lots of fun!

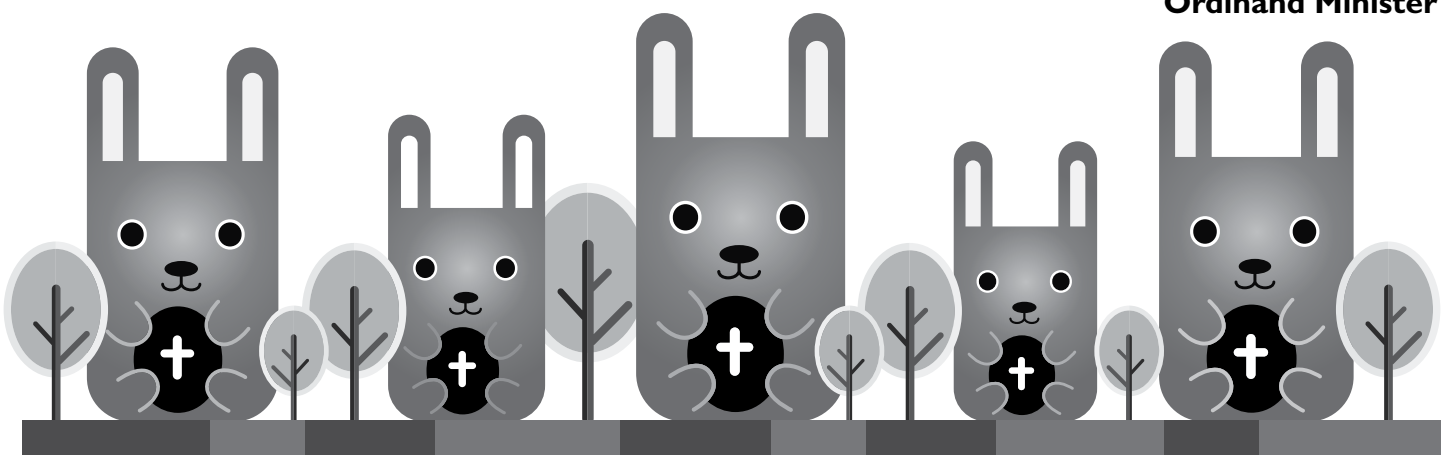
The First Steps Team are busy planning an Easter Celebration for this age group which will be on Wednesday

21st March at 10-11am at St Mary's Church. Bring your baby, toddler or pre-schooler and join us for a fun time of singing, stories, crafts and Easter-themed food.

From the 25th April, First Steps Toddler Praise will be held weekly at St Mary's Church.

So come along and join us 10-11am every Wednesday morning. We look forward to welcoming you and your little ones aged 0-5 for fun, friendship, music and more!

Cara Lovell
Ordinand Minister



In need of an Oasis?

When I was a young mum living in London, I was often quite lonely during the day. I didn't have a group of friends with babies that I could meet up with and share childcare ideas and problems. Also I felt that my small son could do with other children to play with. I could have done with having an Oasis to come to.

In St Mary's Community Hall on Monday afternoons from 1.30 to 3pm during term times, there is a lovely Oasis for pre-school children and their carers: a cheerful airy hall, lots of toys, books and a craft table, cups of tea, coffee, biscuits and juice for the little ones and a very warm welcome. There is a very good atmosphere with mums, dads, grandparents, carers and willing helpers. The afternoons end with a story and a song or two and everyone goes home happy.

If you are in need of an Oasis in your life, help is at hand!

You are welcome to just turn up or contact Mary on 020 8979 2264 or Hilary on 020 8979 5665

Didie Bucknall



Sing to the Lord a new song

Our organ scholar talks about her experiences at St Mary's, Hampton



A little over half way through my year as organ scholar at St Mary's, I am delighted to reflect on the joy and benefit I have felt being part of the musical set up here.

Music has long been a part of my life; as a junior I sang at All Saints, Kingston, and

I have been playing violin since I was six, then taking up viola and piano as well. Singing at Kingston sparked my interest in playing the organ which has so many musical possibilities and I was able to begin learning the organ just over a year ago. The opportunity of the organ scholarship at Hampton has been brilliant for providing me with a beautiful instrument on which to practise and a measured opportunity to play voluntaries and accompany hymns, psalms and service settings for services as I have grown in ability and confidence. It has been a wonderful complement to my organ lessons both at Kingston and with the Royal College of Organists.

But the role has meant so much more. The choir has welcomed me into their number; I have been able to sing alto as well as my more normal soprano, and to conduct the choir on numerous occasions. The church has also provided a spiritual home as we sing God's praises and explore His Word together Sunday by Sunday.

What could be more wonderful than to play on such a versatile and beautiful instrument to support the church's singing and see my playing develop at the same time?

The role has also provided a springboard for the next stage of my musical career as next September I will continue my viola studies, starting at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, and have been offered the post of Organ scholar at Newport Cathedral.

I will be sad to leave St Mary's this coming summer but will retain a fond memory of the people and of the opportunity to develop both my organ playing and my conducting skills.

Agnes Miles

MTV Youth



We continue to open our doors to Hampton children aged 8-14 at its Friday night youth club. We are running on two sites: outdoor sports at St Mary's School and indoor games, crafts, music and cooking at Hampton Baptist Church.

A key priority over the last six months has been to invest in our Young Leaders. These 14 and 15 year olds now help the adult volunteers to run things on a Friday night. Thanks to a Richmond Council Civic Pride grant, we were able to run a Leadership Skills Course in the Autumn. This covered:

- 12 weekly group sessions including a range of topics such as: Leading when not in charge, Time Management, Dealing with Conflict and Embracing Change
- An activity based team building residential weekend
- Certified First Aid training
- Safeguarding training
- One to one mentoring for each young person

We are delighted in the difference seen in the young people since this course, with increased confidence to help lead sessions and to work well with the younger children.



This term we continue to invest in the young leaders and are running a weekly 'healthy relationships' course.

Our wonderful variety of volunteers continue to provide fantastic support to the club and recently twelve of us benefited from an excellent training course on 'How to Motivate and Mentor Young People'.

We continue to need to fundraise for the work we do. Please look out for and support the following dates

**Saturday 21 April 2018 6pm–8.30pm:
Family Games Evening**

**Saturday 12 May 2018 9.30am–1.30pm:
Car Wash at Hampton Methodist Church**

For more information about the club please go to www.mtvhampton.org.uk

Penny Dimond

Hot Cross Buns

The origin of the hot cross bun predates Christianity. Saxon pagans were known to have a doughy fruited bun which was round, representing the sun, and marked into quarters, representing the four seasons. The Romans too were known to have a round loaf which was marked into quarters although this was probably to make it easier to divide and share.

Quite when they became a Christian Good Friday treat is not clear but there are references to them being eaten by monks as early as the 12th century. The spices in the buns represent the spices used to prepare Jesus's body for burial after his death, the bread-based recipe represents the Last Supper and the cross represents his crucifixion. For centuries they were regarded as good luck charms, with sailors pinning them to the masts of their ships to protect against shipwrecks.

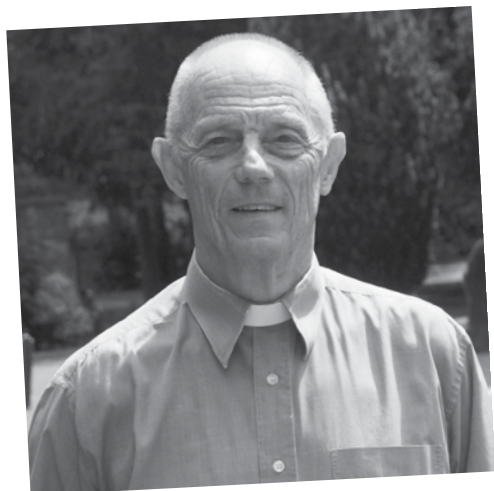
Nowadays hot cross buns are available all year round, but at St Mary's we'll be keeping with tradition and serving them on Good Friday after our 10am All Age Service. Do come and join us.



There IS such a thing as a free breakfast!

Look out for members of Churches Together around Hampton. They will be handing out hot cross buns to morning commuters on their way to work at Hampton and Fulwell Stations during Holy Week. The hot cross bun giveaway runs from Monday 26 – Thursday 29 March.





God, faith, prayer and the 'C' word

"You have cancer in the prostate." Well that was a surprise, as I felt completely well! I had often heard the 'C' word spoken in hushed tones

but not when it was being applied to me. Cancer still seems to be a major scare word which many people don't like to mention out loud. Strange really when we consider it's not some dreadful invader from outside, rather your body's own cells growing the wrong way. Certainly, a lot of people die from cancer, just as they do from heart failure or other malfunctions, but a lot of people live with cancer and many are treated and cured through amazing developments in modern medicine.

The good news in my case was that it was a medium to fast grade but confined completely within the capsule of the prostate, although very near the edge. Prostate cancer is one of the most common cancers in men, particularly as we move into our "golden age." Doctors said in this case it was not only treatable but highly likely to be curable with timely intervention.

I have often heard people say, "Why does God send cancer?" Of course, he doesn't. He loves us and wants the best for us. Like many bad things that happen, it is another result of living in a world spoiled by myriads of bad human choices which have a build-up effect on God's good world. It may be tempting to ask, "Why me" when cancer is diagnosed, but nobody seems to ask, "Why not me?" It's part of life as we now know it. We do know that God, in his power and wisdom, can heal cancer in answer to prayer, but that doesn't always happen. We ask in trust that he knows best. Sometimes he works in us alongside medical treatment.

My treatment started 6 months ago and is now drawing to a close. I have been very privileged to have lots of people praying for me. Whilst not relishing the thought of hormone therapy, radiotherapy, and a brachytherapy operation any more than any other response to disease or illness, I can honestly say that God has worked through faith and prayer to give me a sense of peace throughout and keep me positive, seeing the whole thing from an eternal perspective. There have been some uncomfortable side-effects, including acute lack of energy at times to carry on with "normal life", but nothing unbearable. I am now officially radioactive (at a low level) for the next 10 months, but looking forward to getting back to exercise, sport and purposeful activity.

This kind of experience helps us to appreciate God's precious gift of life, much of which we take for granted when all is going well. It reminds us that survival is not guaranteed for anyone indefinitely and how good it is to have an eternal home to look forward to when this one wears out! If any of you reading this are amongst those who have prayed for me, then thank you, it has clearly been effective and may God bless you!

Those who wait upon God get fresh strength. They spread their wings and soar like eagles, they run and don't get tired, they walk and don't lag behind.

ISAIAH 40:31 MESSAGE VERSION

Alan Jackson



Love and Marriage

Would you say that your marriage is your priority? Would you describe your marriage as strong, capable of not only surviving the storms of life but a true partnership grounded in love and resembling a beautiful adventure? And if you are honest, in the busyness of life, would you say your daily activities reflect that your marriage is your priority... do you long for a bit of space to have slow, intentional conversations with your spouse... to maybe ask the hard questions you have been avoiding or to dream dreams together. Whatever the reason, whatever stage you are at in your marriage, what would you think about having seven weekly date nights over cheese and wine to invest in your relationship?

If the thought of a marriage MOT sounds like a worthwhile investment, we would love to invite you to join us for the marriage course being run at St Mary's Church, Hampton from 26 April. No group work, just a relaxed space to help you as a couple explore the following themes:



Building Strong Foundations

Learn to understand each other's needs

The Art of Communication

How to listen and communicate effectively

Resolving Conflict

Develop methods to resolve conflict and disagreements

The Power of Forgiveness

Learn how to apologise and forgive as a couple



The Impact of Family Past and Present

Explore the impact of your family on your relationship

Good Sex

Find ways to develop greater sexual intimacy

Love in Action

Learn your partner's 'love language' and how to love them well

For further information or to sign up, visit
www.hampton-church.org.uk/marriagecourse

The Parish Link

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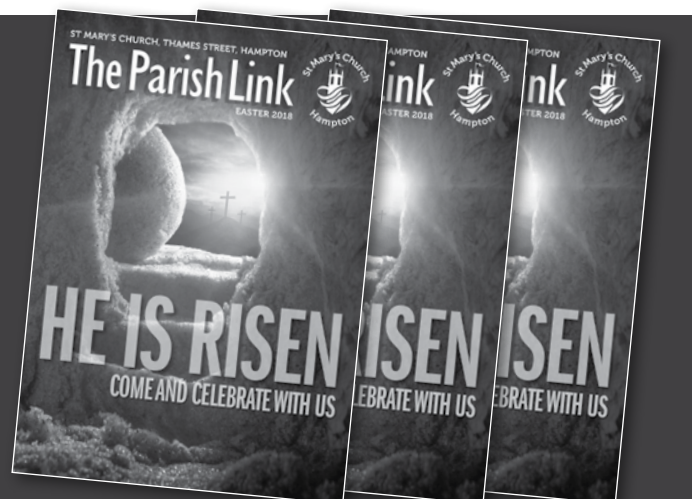
link@hampton-church.org.uk

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The Alpha Course

What do you think of when you hear the word 'course'?

- ...An obligatory training day with work?
- ...A dull but worthy time of study and learning?
- ...A green place you go to play golf?

The Alpha Course is certainly none of these things!

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, normally over an eight week period. Each session looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation.

An Alpha evening consists of three things: firstly, sharing a home-cooked meal together; secondly, watching a short magazine-style film about an aspect of faith; and, finally; time spent in discussion over coffee.

People who attend Alpha come for all sorts of reasons – many would not consider themselves Christians, lots have questions or doubts, and some are keen to understand more about the 'basics' of the Christian faith.

Whatever the reason that people come along to Alpha, it is great to have a chance to get to know the other guests over dinner and to engage in discussion with one another in the small group.

The small group discussion is an opportunity to hear from others and contribute your own perspective in an honest, friendly and open environment. There is no obligation to say anything and there's nothing that can't be said either!

Alpha is about exploring faith in a fun and friendly context along with other people. I asked some of our recent participants to tell me what they liked best about Alpha and here are a few of their responses:

The yummy food featured in many comments:

There was a tremendous sense of being looked after. So many people put in time and effort to produce lovely meals, set up the videos, clear away afterwards and generally ensure you don't have to do anything except enjoy the evening – such a treat when you're busy." (Elizabeth)

Others enjoyed having the space to explore the Christian faith:

It's left me feeling inspired about life and the prospect of there being a much bigger picture than the day to day stuff we're all faced with. (Kate)

The Alpha course has given me precious time out from life's pressures. It's helped me to reflect, meet new friends and prioritise. (Jenny)

And, the time and space for discussion was the best thing for many:

You meet lots of new people and it's really eye opening; no one is there to judge you. (Grace)

I love the discussion at the end of the session. Each group is unique, so each discussion will bring fresh perspectives for everyone involved. And it's true that no topic is off-limits! (Elizabeth)

We would love to welcome you on our next Alpha Course which will start after Easter. Please visit our website www.hampton-church.org.uk/Alpha for more information and to sign up.

Cara Lovell





St Mary's Drama Group's Annual Performance at Garrick's Temple

Royal Weddings Come in Pairs

Prince Harry Usurps King William IV!

It may not have escaped the attention of readers of The Parish Link that a wedding is taking place this spring. On 19 May 2018 Prince Harry and Meghan Markle are to be married in St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle.

Two hundred years earlier at Kew Palace, on 11 July 1818, there was another royal wedding. This was even more special in that it was a double wedding of not one but two princes, five great granduncles of Prince Harry. Prince William, the Duke of Clarence, who was later to become King William IV, married Princess Adelaide of Saxe-Meiningen. His brother, Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, married Victoria, Dowager Princess of Leiningen and their daughter was later to become Queen Victoria.

At our parish church of St Mary's Hampton, which is almost equidistant along the Thames from Windsor and Kew, Prince William, the Duke of Clarence has a lasting place in the church's fascinating history. He was probably the church's most eminent parishioner, and regularly attended St Mary's throughout the years that he lived at Bushy House as Ranger of Bushy Park. Every Sunday an entourage of one to two dozen carriages made their way to St Mary's from Bushy Park, often causing quite a traffic jam, as William and his family and household attended the morning service.

Although William's great-grandfather King George I had generously endowed additions to the building of the medieval church of St Mary's, William was



instrumental in its demolition a century later, to be replaced by the present church building in 1829-31. It was William who laid the church's foundation stone on 15 April 1830, two months before he ascended the throne as King William IV. Our organ, restored last year, was a gift from King William IV. The new church was consecrated on 1st September 1831, exactly one week before William's coronation.

Every year SMDG (St Mary's Drama Group) has an afternoon performance of local historical interest at Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare, on Garrick's Lawn alongside the Thames opposite St Mary's. This year our dramatised reading, again written by local playwright Keith Wait, will reminisce about William IV, Queen Adelaide, their wedding, and his connections with St Mary's Church.

The date **was** to have been Saturday 19 May, but strike that from your diaries, as you may be otherwise engaged. Prince Harry has usurped King William IV, and we will now have our performance of **Royal Weddings Come in Pairs** on **Saturday 9 June at 3pm**.

The afternoon is a very civilised affair, with an hour's performance in the Temple itself, followed by tea and cakes on the lawn by the river. Moreover, the performance

is free of charge, although contributions to the refreshments are warmly encouraged.

Make a note of the date, and come to your second Royal Wedding of the season. More details at: www.garrickstemple.org.uk/events-2018

Keith Wait

Easter Lilies

Churches are often decorated with white lilies on Easter Sunday. The white lily has come to be regarded as a symbol of love, purity and hope. Folklore tells us that white lilies sprang from the ground from drops of blood and sweat that fell from Jesus' body while he was nailed to the cross. Each lily springs from a single bulb, representing the resurrection.



White lilies are often seen in art as symbols of purity and divinity. The Archangel Gabriel is often seen in paintings and in stained glass windows giving a spray of lilies to the Virgin Mary during the Annunciation.

In the language of flowers, if you receive white lilies from someone it means that they are very pleased to be your friend.

HAMPTON'S CLASSICS ON THE GREEN

Sunday 1 July 2018 □ 11am to 4pm

A CLASSIC CAR & BIKE SHOW FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HAMPTON

HAMPTON VILLAGE GREEN, STATION ROAD, HAMPTON TW12

TO ENTER A CAR OR BE A SPONSOR OR A STALL HOLDER PLEASE CALL NICK OR JANE ON 020 8979 3384

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These special coins have kept much the same form since 1670, and they still bear the portrait of Her Majesty designed for her coronation in 1953, even though the image on ordinary circulating coinage has since been changed four times. Each recipient of Maundy money is given two small leather purses by The Queen, one red and one white. The first contains a small amount of ordinary coinage which symbolises the Sovereign's gift for food and clothing. The second purse contains Maundy coins up to the value of the Sovereign's age. The coins are legal tender but recipients normally prefer to retain them as a keepsake.



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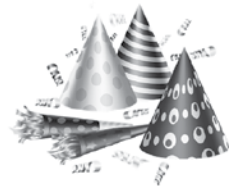
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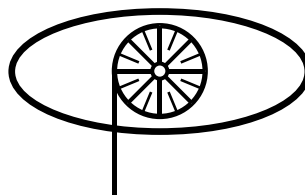
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